GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3821
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2002
VISIT OF INDONESIAN PRESIDENT
C. SREENIVAASAN;M.H. AMBAREESH;NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the President of Indonesia visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of agreements signed;

(c) whether both the countries agreed to increase the volume of bilateral trade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

a) Yes, Sir. H.E Mrs. Megawati Soekarnoputri, President of the Republic of Indonesia came on a State Visit to India from 1-5 April, 2002.

(b) Three Government-to-Government MOUs were signed during the visit, namely, MOU pertaining to Visa Exemption between the two countries for holders of official and diplomatic passports; MOU for enhanced cooperation between Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and its Indonesian counterpart Lapan; and an MOU for the setting up of a vocational training centre in the construction sector in Jakarta by India under India`s ITEC Programme.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. Prime Minister expressed India`s keen interest in participating in Railway Projects in Indonesia, under suitable mechanism, like counter trade. PM also called for strengthening the bilateral cooperation between the two countries in other infrastructure areas such as telecommunications, power project and ports development. PM made a special mention of the fact that India would sponsor a high level investment delegation to Indonesia in order to study investment opportunities for Indian businesses there. President Megawati stated that she was very receptive to the idea of India`s undertaking railway projects. The scope of diversifying and further augmenting the trade between the two countries was discussed in general terms.